

MEDICARE BILLING FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

During the public health emergency (PHE), CMS utilized enforcement discretion to allow entities, such as long-term care pharmacies, that provide vaccinations to SNF residents to directly bill and receive payment for the administration of COVID-19, influenza, and pneumococcal vaccines. The enforcement discretion stated:

“CMS will exercise discretion (1) during the emergency period defined in paragraph (1)(B) of section 1135(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-5(g)) and ending on the last day of the calendar quarter in which the last of such emergency period occurs; or (2) so long as CMS determines that there is a public health need for mass COVID-19 vaccinations in congregate care settings – whichever is later.”

CMS did not extend this enforcement discretion, meaning that it will end on June 30, 2023. Providers are encouraged to review [CMS Billing Guidance: Medicare Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Administration](#) for detailed information on billing to start preparing now for this change in billing.